(c) what action is proposed to be taken by Government to make quick pay ment to these growers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (SHRl p, CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c) No arrears as such, are pending with the Coffee Board for effecting payment to Coffee growers from cut of the Coffee proceeds sold in auction. However, if some balance payment is due to the growers, the Coffee Board has also arranged to pay this amount.

**Setting up a Bench of Madras High Court at Madurai**

138. SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up a Bench of Madras High Court at Madurai to cater to the needs of the Southern Districts of Tamil Nadu; and

(b) if so, by when the proposal is expected to, materialise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS. AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) and (b) The Government of Tamil Nadu had sent a proposal to the Central Government for establishment of a Bench of Madras High Court at Madurai. The proposal was referred to the Jaswant Singh Commission in 1983 for a report. The Commission recommended the establishment of a Bench of Madras High Court at Madurai. Specific recommendations of the Commission were sent to the State Government in 1986 for views/comments, in consultation with the Chief Justice of the High Court. No specific proposal, in consultation with the Chief Justice of the High Court, has been received from the State Government. No. decision can be taken by the Central Government without specific/complete proposal from the State Government.

**Steps to control population**

139. SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN:

SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the population of India «»• cording to 1990-91 Census;

(b) what is the percentage of increase of population in 1991 over 1981 Census;

(c) whether Government with all its efforts to control population have achieved any tangible result in this regard; and

(d) what concrete and effective steps are *under* the consideration of Government to contain population explosion in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D. K. THARA DEVI): (a) Based on the 1991 Census, the provisional population total for India is 683,329,097.

(b) The decadal growth rate of population for India during 1981-91 is 23.5 per cent.

(c) The Birth Rate which was 37.2 per thousand population in the decade 1971-81 has since come down to 30.5 per thousand population in 1989 as per latest available Sample Registration System estimates. The annual growth rate of population which has been consistently rising since 1951 and was 2.22 per cent in 1981 has now declined to 2.11 per cent in 1991. j

(d) The strategy to contain population growth in the country involves improvement of quality of health services, strengthening health infrastructure, enhencing child survival rates through Universal Immunization Programme, providing power contraceptive methods, intensifying population education, enhancing community participation, adopting improved communication approaches, grater in-